IN THE CLAIMS

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) An isolated protein comprising a human cellular inhibitor of apoptosis protein (c-IAP) baculovirus inhibitor of apoptosis repeat (BIR) motif comprising SEQ ID NO:9; ~~wherein the BIR motif provides a protein:protein interaction domain which binds at least one of a human tumor necrosis factor receptor associated factor 1 (TRAF1) and a human tumor necrosis factor receptor associated factor 2 (TRAF2).~~

18. (Currently amended) An isolated protein according to claim 17 comprising at least two of the following three domains: a first domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 5 or 6, a second domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 7 or 8, and a third domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 9 or 10, wherein the protein binds at least one of a human tumor necrosis factor receptor associated factor 1 (TRAF1) and a human tumor necrosis factor receptor associated factor 2 (TRAF2).

19. (Previously presented) An isolated human cellular inhibitor of apoptosis protein (c-IAP) comprising SEQ ID NO:2.

20. (Previously presented) A method of screening for compounds which modulate a human c-IAP interaction with a c-IAP binding target, said method comprising the steps of:

incubating a mixture comprising:

a protein according to claim 17,

a natural intracellular human c-IAP binding target, wherein said binding target is capable of specifically binding said human c-IAP, and

a candidate agent;

under conditions whereby, but for the presence of said candidate agent, said human c-IAP specifically binds said binding target at a reference affinity; and

detecting the binding affinity of said human c-IAP to said binding target to determine an agent-biased affinity,

wherein a difference between the agent-biased affinity and the reference affinity indicates that said candidate agent modulates a human c-IAP interaction with a natural c-IAP binding target, wherein said c-IAP binding target comprises a TRAF or fragment thereof sufficient to provide for c-IAP-specific binding.

21. (Previously presented) A method of screening for compounds which modulate a human c-IAP interaction with a c-IAP binding target, said method comprising the steps of:

incubating a mixture comprising:

a protein according to claim 18,

a natural intracellular human c-IAP binding target, wherein said binding target is capable of specifically binding said human c-IAP, and

a candidate agent;

under conditions whereby, but for the presence of said candidate agent, said human c-IAP specifically binds said binding target at a reference affinity; and

detecting the binding affinity of said human c-IAP to said binding target to determine an agent-biased affinity,

wherein a difference between the agent-biased affinity and the reference affinity indicates that said candidate agent modulates a human c-IAP interaction with a natural c-IAP binding target, wherein said c-IAP binding target comprises a TRAF or fragment thereof sufficient to provide for c-IAP-specific binding.

22. (Previously presented) A method of screening for compounds which modulate a human c-IAP interaction with a c-IAP binding target, said method comprising the steps of:

incubating a mixture comprising:

a protein according to claim 19,

a natural intracellular human c-IAP binding target, wherein said binding target is capable of specifically binding said human c-IAP, and

a candidate agent;

under conditions whereby, but for the presence of said candidate agent, said human c-IAP specifically binds said binding target at a reference affinity; and

detecting the binding affinity of said human c-IAP to said binding target to determine an agent-biased affinity,

wherein a difference between the agent-biased affinity and the reference affinity indicates that said candidate agent modulates a human c-IAP interaction with a natural c-IAP binding target, wherein said c-IAP binding target comprises a TRAF or fragment thereof sufficient to provide for c-IAP-specific binding.

23. - 28. (Canceled).